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 한국문화원 Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles		<b>Press Release</b>			
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ARI PROJECT: Performing Arts  
**Gayageum & Time**



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- ▶ Title : ARI PROJECT: Performing Arts “Gayageum & Time”
  - ▶ Date: Thursday, June 15, 2018 at 7:30pm
  - ▶ Place: Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles 3rd Fl. Ari Hall
  - ▶ Presenters : Korean Cultural Center, LA (KCCLA) &  
Ji Yeong-Hee's Folk Music Institute USA
  - ▶ Online Reservation : [www.kccla.org](http://www.kccla.org)
  - ▶ For more Info: [tammy@kccla.org](mailto:tammy@kccla.org) or 323-936-3015 Tammy Chung
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**The Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles (KCCLA) and Ji Yeong-Hee's Folk Music Institute USA** will present a special performance "**Gayageum & Time**" on Thursday, June 21st, 2018 at 7:30P.M. on the 3rd floor of the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, Ari Hall.

Performers from Korea, Scarlett Choi and master Ji, Soon Ja of Ji Yeong-hee Folk Music Institute will be joining us for a gayageum concert. In addition, Ju Young Lim and Kyoung Ah Lee, members of NORI, a Traditional Korean Percussion Music group located in Los Angeles, will join them.

The program includes 25-stringed gayageum sijo byeongchang, gayageum and danso Pungnyu duet, gayageum sanjo duet, gayageum byeongchang for Gyeonggi minyo, Chimhyangmu and An Gi Ok gayageum sanjo. Come experience how gayageum music has changed overtime or just come by for a relaxing time.

Known for her detailed and pristine rendering of "Seong Geum Yeon Sanjo", Ji Soon Ja is the fifth daughter of Ji Yeong Hee and Seong Geum Yeon. She is recognized for her in-depth knowledge of Korea's folk music, particularly music indigenous to the Gyeonggi provincial regions. She has won first place in three major music competitions in 1960, 1968 and 1974. Amidst her countless concerts, she has recorded eight albums and published eight music books. Today she is the head director of Ji Yeong-hee Folk Music Institute, established in 2000, and strives to continue the legacy of her father's dreams to transmit Korea's traditional music domestically and internationally. Soon Ja and her daughter, Scarlett Choi, share this dream together through this foundation.

Her daughter, Scarlett is a Korean traditional musician who spent a majority of her musical education and career in Seoul, Korea. While in Korea, she not only mastered the gayageum, zither, and janggo, hourglass shaped drum, but also learned gagok, lyric singing, danso, small vertical bamboo flute, and more in addition to samulori percussion instruments. While receiving her bachelor's in music at Seoul National University and master's at Korean National University of Arts, she participated in numerous recordings for the gayageum and janggo. Her background in folk music is what also distinguishes her styles when rendering contemporary pieces.

Nak Jung Kim, the director KCCLA said, "This particular event has much significance from the aspect that it's carefully arranged by Korean traditional musicians based in the U.S. and in Korea, who have been performing with a deep sense of pride and passion upon Korean traditional culture. We hope more people will be able to join the event to thoroughly enjoy the unique taste and beauty of Korean traditional music."

The program will be explained in both Korean and English.

*\*This performance is presented as a part of the Korean Cultural Center's ARI PROJECT Season: Performing arts series, which features a rich program of various performing arts programs including Korean traditional music and dance, modern fusion world music, Jazz, royal court tea ceremonies, puppet shows as well as theater.*

## **-PROGRAM-**

### **Performing Artists:**

**Gayageum: Suimdang Ji (Ji, Soon Ja), Scarlett Choi**

**Janggu: Ju, Young Lim/ Buk: Kyoung, Ah Lee**

### **1. Gayageum Sijo Byeongchang, Cheongsanlli / Scarlett Choi**

Sijo is three versed poems that are sung in a slow and melodically protracted form. Traditionally, the daegeum, transverse bamboo flute and janggo, hourglass-shaped drum are its proper accompaniment. However, in today's rendition, Scarlett Choi has arranged and composed the song into a byeongchang, the act of singing and playing an instrument, with a contemporary tone for the 25-stringed gayageum, zither. The literal translation of the poem is the following:

To the creeks that flow from a top the green mountains, do not be boastful  
Once you've flowed into the ocean, it is impossible to return  
The moon shines bright on the mountain, why not rest a while

### **2. Gayageum and Danso Duet, Pungnyu / Suimdang Ji, Scarlett Choi**

Pungnyu is music that was believed to bring serenity and was enjoyed by aristocrats for a long time. Tonight segments from Ji Younghee Pungnyu Garak will be performed by the gayageum and danso, vertical bamboo flute.

### **3. Gayageum Sanjo Duet, Sung Geum Yeon Gayageum Sanjo / Suimdang Ji, Scarlett Choi**

Sanjo is a classical, solo instrumental piece in Korean traditional music that is comparable to the sonata of Western music. These extensive pieces are composed of a number of rhythmic cycles called jangdan that act as movements and generally transition from slow to faster tempos. Tonight, the composer's fifth daughter, Suimdang Ji, and granddaughter, Scarlett Choi, will perform a condensed version of the original fifty-five minute piece. They will perform the Seong Geum Yeon Gayageum Sanjo as a duet with a second gayageum that transitions between unisonous and improvisational melodies of the original sanjo.

### **4. Gayageum Byeongchang, Changbutaryeong and Jajin Changbutaryeong / Suimdang Ji**

Changbutaryeong is a classical folk song originating in the Gyeonggi province that was also popular in the area now known as Seoul. The original jangdan of the song is gutgeori, but Suimdang Ji arranged the song with a different and slight faster jangdan named, jajinmori.

### **5. Contemporary Gayageum, Chimhyangmu / Scarlett Choi, Suimdang Ji**

Chimhyangmu illustrates movements danced in a smoke-full room of incense as ‘chimhyang,’ or aloes wood is the wood used to make incense. Byeonggi Hwang composed this piece in 1974, with a Buddhist chant influenced scale that was different from the traditional gayageum scale. The music often depicts the sounds of a konghou, an ancient Chinese harp, with its techniques and arpeggios. The janggu incorporates the use of fingers and the instrument’s body, which was different from the traditional methods of accompaniment. Out of the three movements, movements two and three will be performed tonight.

**6. Gayageum and Percussion, An Gi Ok Gayageum Sanjo  
Suimdang Ji, Scarlett Choi / Ju Young Lim, Kyoung Ah Lee**

Some consider An Gi Ok Sanjo to be a modern sanjo as the music appears to be systematically composed. The notes and jangdans do not fall out of place in repeated musical tension and releases, and combine well with international percussions.

**7. 12 and 25 Stringed Gayageum, Arirang and Holo Arirang / Suimdang Ji, Scarlett Choi**

Inscribed in UNESCO’s list of intangible cultural heritage, Arirang is the most popular folk song among Koreans. Holo Arirang, composed in 1990 by Handol, is a song faintly resembling the melodies of the original Arirang and containing hopeful lyrics of a unified Korea. These two repertoires will be performed with the 12-stringed and 25-stringed gayageum.

※ *The program is subject to change without notice.*



Performing Artists / 출연자

			
지순자 Ji Soon Ja	최스칼렛 Scarlett Choi	임주영 Ju Young Lim	이경아 Kyoung Ah Lee